



## Year 1 Curriculum Information

Week Beginning: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear Parents

This week Mrs Harries led an assembly about 'beauty from within', linking these ideas to the story of *Beauty and the Beast* in readiness for and recognition of the Year 7 and 8 musical, performed yesterday evening and tonight. In Bird Family meetings this week, the children discussed the importance of keeping safe and a variety of ways in which to do so. Mrs Wilson also led an assembly on Thursday on the beauty of the world, in which she read the story *Miss Rumphius* and showed the children pictures of lots of beautiful places around the world.

### Literacy

We have been very impressed with the recent spelling quiz scores and the children have been taking care over their handwriting practice. Mr Fisher's group have been learning the 'o-e' grapheme (phone home) and read the text '*Look Out!*'. The children have been practising their comprehension skills by answering questions about the text. Mrs Brown's group have been learning the 'ir' grapheme (whirl and twirl) and read the story 'Elvis' writing a poster about items he was able to mend. Mrs Wilson's group have been learning the 'ure' grapheme (sure it's pure) and reading the story '*Vulture Culture*'. The children wrote a fact file about Marabou storks, noticing similarities and differences between the storks and Andean Condors.

### Maths

In maths this week, the children have been using money to demonstrate place value and have found different ways of making 6p, 7p and 10p. We recalled and recorded number facts using coins totalling amounts up to £2. The children have been able to recognise British coins and order these according to their values. We have explored money using role-play scenarios by paying for items around the classroom using the exact amount needed.

### Other lessons and activities:

- In PE lessons, your children have continued to work on developing their core strength through circuit training activities. We have been practising our throwing and catching skills and played a team game in the hall called Tic, Tac, Toe.
- In art lessons, the children have been creating various pieces of artwork using watercolours. We have been practising our colour mixing skills and experimenting with textures.
- In computing lessons, we have continued to practise logging onto the computers independently and locating the correct keys for their username and password. The children thoroughly enjoyed making jam sandwiches as part of our algorithm work in computing. They worked in pairs and took a photograph of each stage of the process. Once complete they transferred their photos to an app called 'Our story' and added text. We will continue this work over the next few weeks and include audio, using the in-built microphone.

- In topic this week, we have been comparing transport used in the UK with that used in India. We have found similarities and differences and recorded facts with illustrations.

### **Over the weekend your child may like to:**

- Complete their handwriting and spelling homework, which has been set by their literacy teacher. This is in your child's home handwriting books, which you will find in their book bag.
- Open the Money Tool on Active Learn (unfortunately this will not work on tablets) and practise totalling amounts and giving change.
- Practise giving change by using various coins and creating a role-play toyshop.
- Read for pleasure. This may be their school reading book(s), library book (reading may be shared or read by an adult), books from home or a book from a public library.
- Complete an activity related to our topic, which can be found in their home-school activity books.

### **Stop and drop**

Our staff are becoming increasingly concerned about the safety of the children in the mornings. Please do take care to drive at no more than 5mph as you enter, move around and leave the site. For those parents who are parking and bringing children in, please ensure that your children are beside you (ideally hand-in-hand) until you have crossed the playground. Thank you for your support.

### **Staff news**

As many of you may be aware, Mrs Pritchard has been absent from school for some time now, both through personal and family illness. After much consideration, she has decided to retire from her post as Pre Prep Deputy Head from 31<sup>st</sup> March. Mrs Laing, who has been Acting Deputy Head since last term, covering some of Mrs Pritchard's responsibilities in her absence, will continue in this role for the remainder of this academic year. Permanent arrangements will be worked out over the coming months ready for September. For those of you who know Mrs Pritchard, we are sure you will join us in wishing her every happiness for the future.

### **Dates for your diary:**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March:** Parents' evening in the Pre Prep hall from 5.00pm – please book via the online booking system

**Online booking system:** Click on the parents' booking system in the new Parent Portal. This will prompt you to enter your email address and password. If you have not used the system before the password is: **townclose**. If you have used the system for after school care, please use the password you have chosen. When you have logged in click the parents' evening button at the top of the screen.

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

With very best wishes from Mrs Brown, Mr Fisher, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Harries

*Melanie Harries*